

NEWS RELEASE

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U. S. D E P A R T M E N T O F L A B O R



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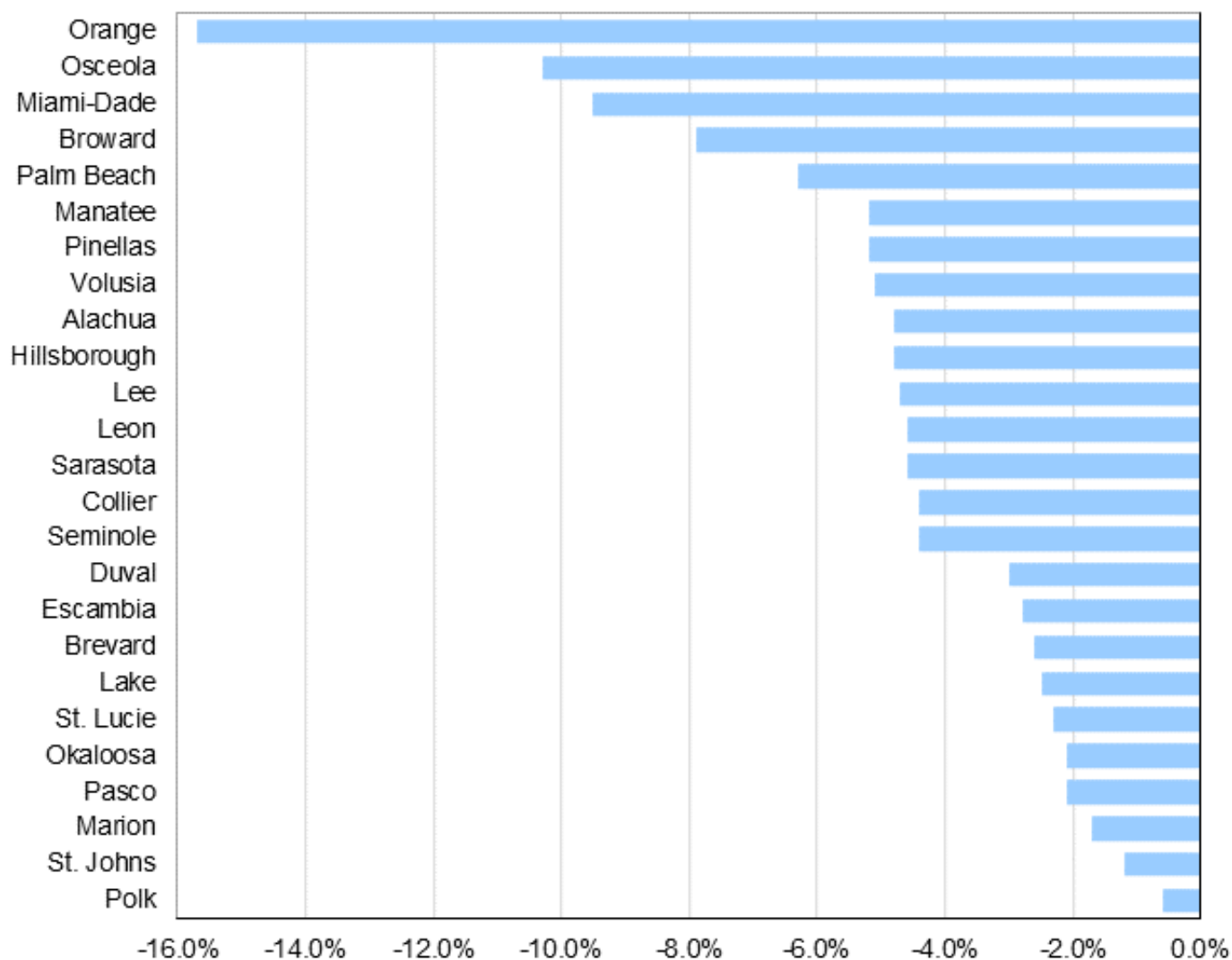
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County Employment and Wages in Florida — Third Quarter 2020

Employment declined in all of Florida's 25 largest counties from September 2019 to September 2020, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (Large counties are those with annual average employment levels of 75,000 or more in 2019.) Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that Orange County had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment at (-15.7 percent), followed by Osceola County (-10.3 percent) and Miami-Dade County (-9.5 percent). (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in covered employment among the largest counties in Florida, September 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

National employment decreased 6.8 percent over the year, with 355 of the 357 largest U.S. counties reporting declines. Maui + Kalawao, HI, had the largest over-the-year decrease in employment with a loss of 35.4 percent. Utah, UT, experienced the largest over-the-year percentage increase in employment with a gain of 1.9 percent.

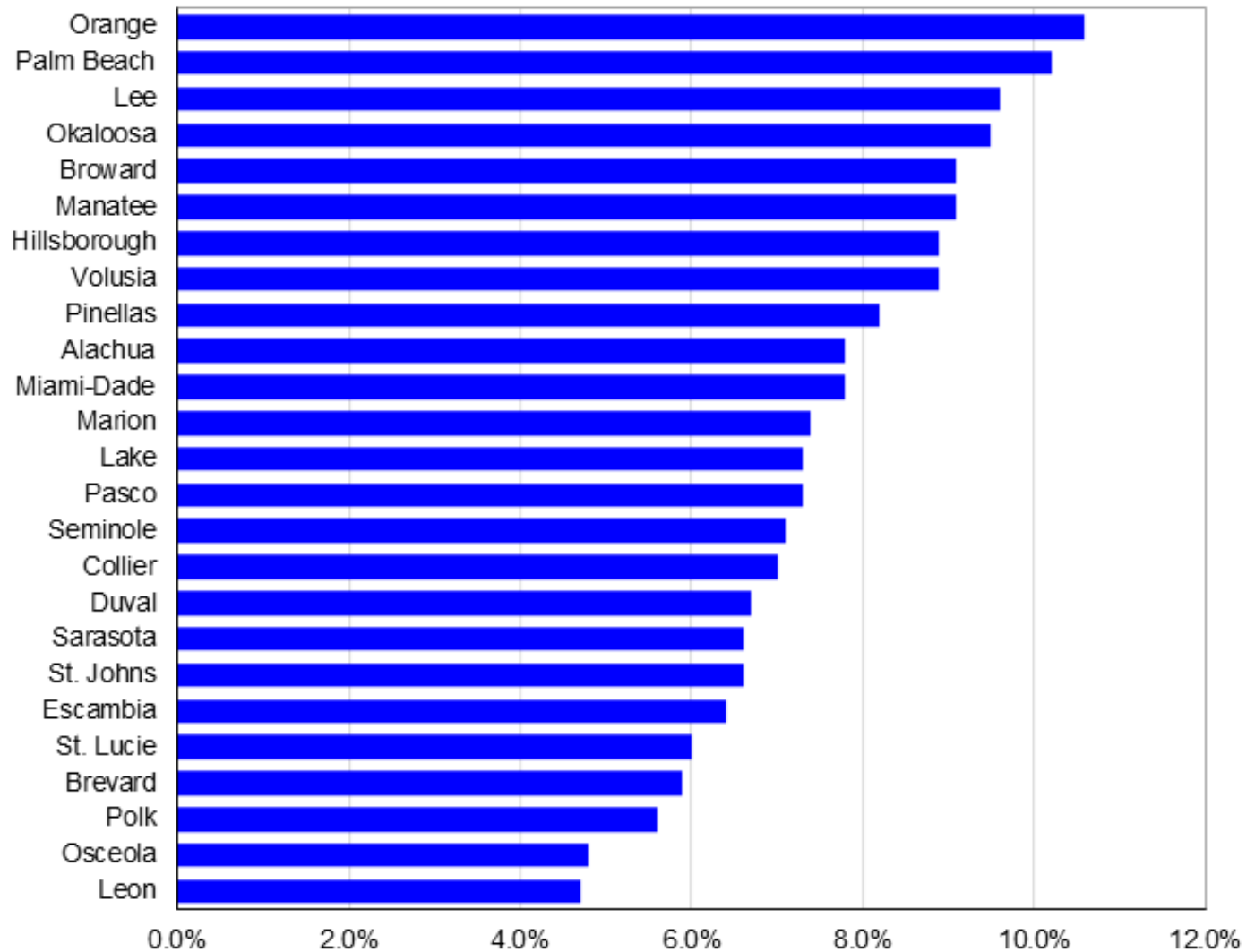
Among the 25 largest counties in Florida, employment was highest in Miami-Dade County (1,048,500) in September 2020. Within Miami-Dade County’s private industry, health care and social assistance accounted for the largest employment. Together, the 25 largest Florida counties accounted for 87.0 percent of total employment within the state. Nationwide, the 357 largest counties made up 72.9 percent of total U.S. employment.

Employment and wage levels (but not over-the-year changes) are also available for the 42 counties in Florida with employment below 75,000. Wage levels in all 42 smaller counties were below the national average in the third quarter of 2020. (See [table 2.](#))

Large county wage changes

All large Florida counties reported average weekly wage gains from the third quarter of 2019 to the third quarter of 2020. (See [chart 2](#).) Twelve counties had rates of wage gains at or above the national rate of 7.4 percent. Orange County had the largest gain (+10.6 percent), followed by Palm Beach County (+10.2 percent). Over-the-year wage gains among Florida's other 23 large counties ranged from 9.6 percent to 4.7 percent.

Chart 2. Over-the-year percent change in covered average weekly wages among the largest counties in Florida, third quarter 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Among the 357 largest counties in the United States, 350 had over-the-year wage increases. Nationally, the increases in average weekly wages largely reflect substantial employment loss among lower-paid industries. Employment declines occurring in some higher-paid industries also feature significant wage increases. San Mateo, CA, had the largest percentage wage increase (+23.2 percent). Seven large counties had wage declines during the period. Ector, TX, had the largest over-the-year percentage decrease (-11.0 percent).

Large county average weekly wages

Average weekly wages in all 25 of Florida's largest counties were below the national average of \$1,173 in the third quarter of 2020. Average weekly wages in Florida's large counties ranged from \$1,133 in Hillsborough County to \$759 in Osceola County.

Among the largest U.S. counties, 96 reported average weekly wages above the U.S. average in the third quarter of 2020. San Mateo, CA, had the highest average weekly wage at \$2,922. Average weekly wages were at or below the national average in 261 counties. At \$697 a week, Cameron, TX, had the lowest average weekly wage.

Average weekly wages in Florida's smaller counties

All 42 smaller counties in Florida—those with employment below 75,000—had average weekly wages below the national average of \$1,173. Among these smaller counties, Hamilton had the highest average weekly wage at \$974. Holmes County (\$618) reported the lowest average weekly wage in the state.

When all 67 counties in Florida were considered, 9 reported average weekly wages of less than \$700, 24 had average weekly wages from \$700 to \$799, 15 registered wages from \$800 to \$899, 10 had wages from \$900 to \$999, and 9 had average weekly wages of \$1,000 or higher. (See [chart 3](#).)

Additional statistics and other information

QCEW data for states have been included in this release in [table 3](#). For additional information about quarterly employment and wages data, please read the [Technical Note](#) or visit www.bls.gov/cew.

Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online features comprehensive information by detailed industry on establishments, employment, and wages for the nation and all states. The 2019 edition of this publication was published in September 2020. Tables and additional content from the 2019 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* are available at www.bls.gov/cew/publications/employment-and-wages-annual-averages/2019/home.htm. The 2020 edition of *Employment and Wages Annual Averages Online* will be available in September 2021.

The County Employment and Wages release for fourth quarter 2020 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. (ET). The County Employment and Wages full data update for fourth quarter 2020 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. (ET).

Technical Note

Average weekly wage data by county are compiled under the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) program, also known as the ES-202 program. The data are derived from summaries of employment and total pay of workers covered by state and federal unemployment insurance (UI) legislation and provided by State Workforce Agencies (SWAs). The average weekly wage values are calculated by dividing quarterly total wages by the average of the three monthly employment levels of those covered by UI programs. The result is then divided by 13, the number of weeks in a quarter. It is to be noted, therefore, that over-the-year wage changes for geographic areas may reflect shifts in the composition of employment by industry, occupation, and such other factors as hours of work. Thus, wages may vary among counties, metropolitan areas, or states for reasons other than changes in the average wage level. Data for all states, Metropolitan

Statistical Areas (MSAs), counties, and the nation are available on the BLS Web site at www.bls.gov/cew/. However, data in QCEW press releases have been revised and may not match the data contained on the Bureau's Web site.

QCEW data are not designed as a time series. QCEW data are simply the sums of individual establishment records reflecting the number of establishments that exist in a county or industry at a point in time. Establishments can move in or out of a county or industry for a number of reasons—some reflecting economic events, others reflecting administrative changes.

The preliminary QCEW data presented in this release may differ from data released by the individual states as well as from the data presented on the BLS Web site. These potential differences result from the states' continuing receipt, review and editing of UI data over time. On the other hand, differences between data in this release and the data found on the BLS Web site are the result of adjustments made to improve over-the-year comparisons. Specifically, these adjustments account for administrative (noneconomic) changes such as a correction to a previously reported location or industry classification. Adjusting for these administrative changes allows users to more accurately assess changes of an economic nature (such as a firm moving from one county to another or changing its primary economic activity) over a 12-month period. Currently, adjusted data are available only from BLS press releases.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Covered employment and wages in the United States and the 25 largest counties in Florida, third quarter 2020

Area	Establishments, third quarter 2020 (thousands)	Employment			Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
		September 2020 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2019–20 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾	Third quarter 2020	National ranking by level ⁽³⁾	Percent change, third quarter 2019–20 ⁽²⁾	National ranking by percent change ⁽³⁾
United States ⁽⁴⁾	10,561.3	138,549.5	-6.8	--	\$1,173	--	7.4	--
Florida	749.1	8,329.7	-5.8	--	1,029	27	8.0	11
Alachua	7.5	128.2	-4.8	84	1,014	214	7.8	140
Brevard	16.9	214.7	-2.6	24	1,017	210	5.9	254
Broward	74.9	753.6	-7.9	240	1,089	162	9.1	71
Collier	15.7	139.4	-4.4	71	984	243	7.0	190
Duval	31.4	509.0	-3.0	35	1,073	171	6.7	209
Escambia	8.7	134.6	-2.8	31	911	316	6.4	227
Hillsborough	47.6	675.9	-4.8	84	1,133	119	8.9	80
Lake	9.2	99.6	-2.5	23	796	349	7.3	168
Lee	24.4	253.3	-4.7	82	935	296	9.6	56
Leon	9.2	145.2	-4.6	78	945	283	4.7	302
Manatee	12.1	121.5	-5.2	105	913	313	9.1	71
Marion	9.0	104.3	-1.7	9	787	350	7.4	162
Miami-Dade	108.1	1,048.5	-9.5	308	1,116	136	7.8	140
Okaloosa	6.9	84.0	-2.1	14	983	244	9.5	58
Orange	47.4	733.3	-15.7	350	1,056	180	10.6	31
Osceola	8.1	89.5	-10.3	328	759	353	4.8	299
Palm Beach	61.2	568.7	-6.3	175	1,115	139	10.2	38
Pasco	12.1	120.6	-2.1	14	835	343	7.3	168
Pinellas	35.7	417.2	-5.2	105	1,011	217	8.2	119
Polk	14.9	230.1	-0.6	3	871	335	5.6	266
Sarasota	17.2	162.1	-4.6	78	956	270	6.6	215
Seminole	16.2	191.6	-4.4	71	990	237	7.1	181
St. Johns	8.4	78.2	-1.2	5	903	321	6.6	215
St. Lucie	7.3	77.8	-2.3	20	835	343	6.0	253
Volusia	15.4	166.4	-5.1	102	824	345	8.9	80

Footnotes:

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Percent changes were computed from quarterly employment and pay data adjusted for noneconomic county reclassifications.

(3) Ranking does not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(4) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Florida, third quarter 2020

Area	Employment September 2020	Average weekly wage(1)
United States(2)	138,549,503	\$1,173
Florida	8,329,730	1,029
Alachua	128,220	1,014
Baker	7,635	683
Bay	72,823	868
Bradford	6,433	738
Brevard	214,675	1,017
Broward	753,620	1,089
Calhoun	2,935	660
Charlotte	46,779	824
Citrus	31,172	760
Clay	51,976	805
Collier	139,429	984
Columbia	24,211	770
De Soto	9,202	742
Dixie	2,884	679
Duval	509,043	1,073
Escambia	134,612	911
Flagler	23,961	715
Franklin	3,381	669
Gadsden	15,505	726
Gilchrist	3,744	761
Glades	1,867	841
Gulf	3,913	773
Hamilton	2,873	974
Hardee	6,587	727
Hendry	11,335	741
Hernando	43,212	767
Highlands	25,427	722
Hillsborough	675,905	1,133
Holmes	3,447	618
Indian River	49,807	866
Jackson	14,692	730
Jefferson	2,540	678
Lafayette	1,397	663
Lake	99,590	796
Lee	253,259	935
Leon	145,192	945
Levy	8,993	644
Liberty	1,884	745
Madison	4,628	651
Manatee	121,533	913
Marion	104,259	787
Martin	66,655	867
Miami-Dade	1,048,545	1,116
Monroe	36,877	895
Nassau	22,933	828
Okaloosa	84,045	983
Okeechobee	10,988	754
Orange	733,281	1,056
Osceola	89,479	759
Palm Beach	568,749	1,115
Pasco	120,600	835
Pinellas	417,189	1,011
Polk	230,071	871
Putnam	15,947	796
St. Johns	78,187	903

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. Covered employment and wages in the United States and all counties in Florida, third quarter 2020 - Continued

Area	Employment September 2020	Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾
St. Lucie	77,801	835
Santa Rosa.....	39,169	744
Sarasota	162,065	956
Seminole	191,572	990
Sumter	30,892	844
Suwannee	10,923	705
Taylor	6,252	754
Union	3,369	744
Volusia	166,438	824
Wakulla.....	6,011	812
Walton	27,418	829
Washington.....	5,807	715

Footnotes

(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

NOTE: Includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs. Data are preliminary.

Table 3. Covered employment and wages by state, third quarter 2020

State	Establishments, third quarter 2020 (thousands)	Employment		Average weekly wage ⁽¹⁾			
		September 2020 (thousands)	Percent change, September 2019–20	Third quarter 2020	National ranking by level	Percent change, third quarter 2019–20	National ranking by percent change
United States ⁽²⁾	10,561.3	138,549.5	-6.8	\$1,173	--	7.4	--
Alabama	132.2	1,902.4	-4.5	978	33	6.4	27
Alaska	22.9	302.6	-10.7	1,165	14	5.4	42
Arizona	174.1	2,797.1	-4.2	1,091	22	7.3	17
Arkansas	93.6	1,180.1	-3.4	892	49	6.1	31
California	1,643.8	16,096.8	-9.2	1,466	4	12.0	1
Colorado	220.1	2,597.2	-5.6	1,235	9	5.6	38
Connecticut	125.4	1,555.6	-7.3	1,328	7	7.4	15
Delaware	34.9	428.8	-5.6	1,150	15	6.8	21
District of Columbia	43.3	713.7	-8.1	1,962	1	6.1	31
Florida	749.1	8,329.7	-5.8	1,029	27	8.0	11
Georgia	313.0	4,282.1	-5.2	1,084	23	5.8	35
Hawaii	46.5	507.5	-22.9	1,114	18	10.3	4
Idaho	70.7	763.7	-0.2	884	50	5.5	41
Illinois	385.9	5,558.5	-7.8	1,199	11	6.8	21
Indiana	172.4	2,941.8	-4.7	961	39	5.3	43
Iowa	105.1	1,475.0	-5.2	969	36	6.0	34
Kansas	89.2	1,325.4	-5.0	952	40	6.6	24
Kentucky	128.0	1,807.1	-5.5	935	43	5.8	35
Louisiana	139.5	1,734.6	-9.6	970	35	5.2	45
Maine	54.4	597.3	-5.9	966	37	9.0	9
Maryland	172.4	2,496.6	-7.6	1,277	8	9.5	7
Massachusetts	265.1	3,314.8	-9.4	1,488	2	9.7	6
Michigan	266.9	4,035.9	-7.9	1,096	20	7.5	14
Minnesota	183.1	2,703.3	-7.4	1,178	12	6.4	27
Mississippi	74.9	1,092.4	-4.0	810	51	5.6	38
Missouri	218.8	2,681.7	-5.1	995	32	5.6	38
Montana	53.0	466.9	-2.5	904	48	6.6	24
Nebraska	73.7	949.9	-3.8	964	38	6.4	27
Nevada	87.9	1,251.0	-11.6	1,048	24	7.8	13
New Hampshire	56.1	634.2	-5.2	1,171	13	8.9	10
New Jersey	289.3	3,778.4	-8.0	1,331	6	9.5	7
New Mexico	63.1	771.9	-8.6	944	41	5.1	46
New York	657.6	8,547.7	-10.8	1,446	5	10.0	5
North Carolina	301.4	4,308.2	-4.4	1,039	26	6.9	20
North Dakota	32.5	398.2	-7.0	1,025	28	-0.3	50
Ohio	305.7	5,136.8	-5.6	1,040	25	6.6	24
Oklahoma	112.4	1,538.5	-5.7	917	46	2.3	48
Oregon	164.6	1,837.3	-7.0	1,113	19	7.4	15
Pennsylvania	366.5	5,501.0	-7.6	1,139	17	7.0	19
Rhode Island	40.1	452.5	-8.0	1,092	21	10.4	3
South Carolina	146.6	2,022.9	-5.2	924	44	6.7	23
South Dakota	35.2	422.3	-2.6	918	45	7.2	18
Tennessee	173.6	2,918.1	-4.6	1,022	29	5.8	35
Texas	733.1	11,926.8	-5.5	1,150	15	3.8	47
Utah	114.3	1,518.2	-1.0	1,015	30	6.1	31
Vermont	26.4	283.9	-8.6	1,001	31	7.9	12
Virginia	285.7	3,737.0	-5.0	1,201	10	6.4	27
Washington	256.6	3,266.2	-6.3	1,482	3	11.0	2
West Virginia	51.7	649.1	-6.7	913	47	1.8	49
Wisconsin	181.2	2,746.6	-5.2	977	34	5.3	43
Wyoming	27.5	264.0	-6.8	939	42	-0.4	51
Puerto Rico	45.7	831.6	-5.3	547	(3)	3.4	(3)
Virgin Islands	3.4	33.9	-13.0	1,019	(3)	-0.5	(3)

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Footnotes:

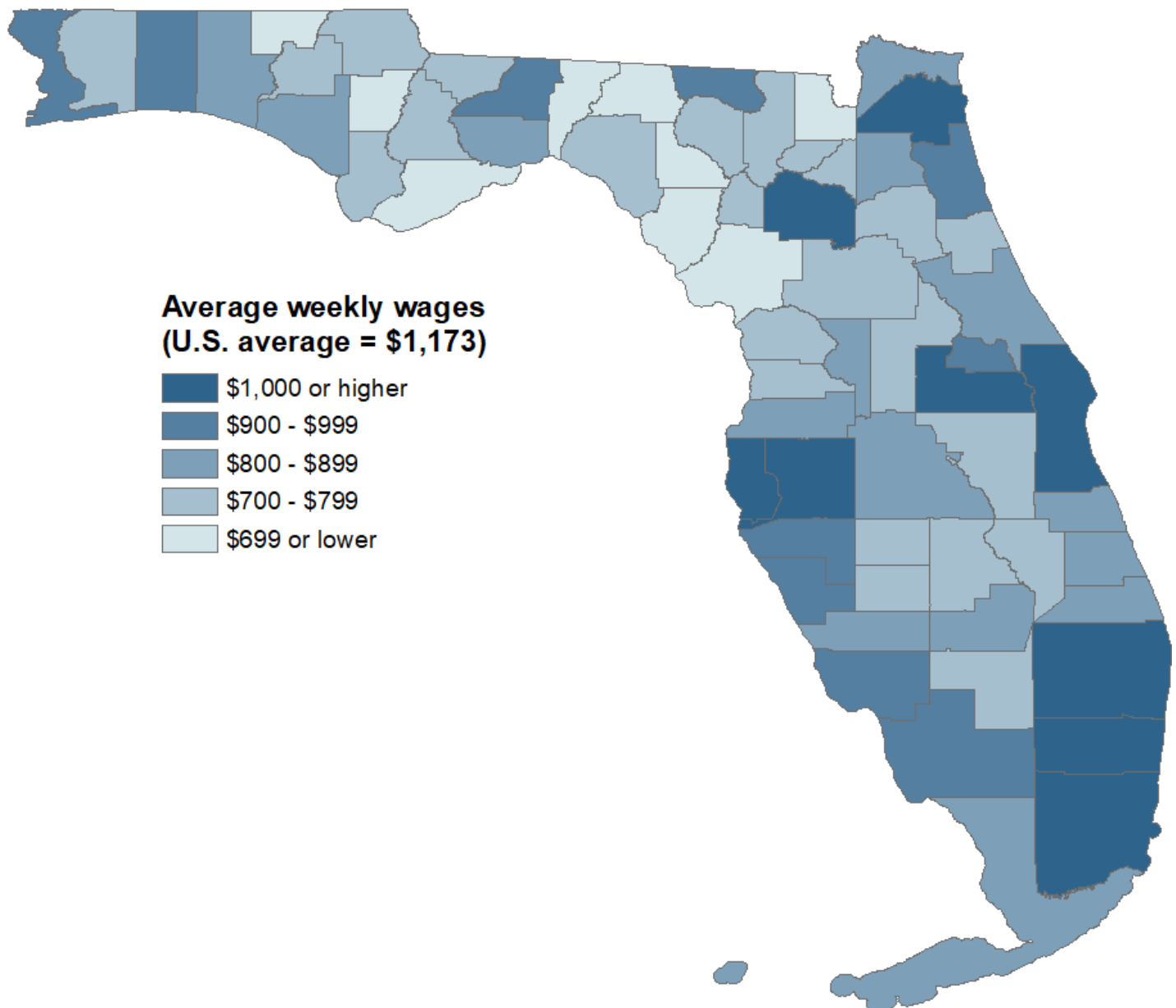
(1) Average weekly wages were calculated using unrounded data.

(2) Totals for the United States do not include data for Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands.

(3) Data not included in the national ranking.

Note: Data are preliminary. Covered employment and wages includes workers covered by Unemployment Insurance (UI) and Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE) programs.

Chart 3. Average weekly wages by county in Florida, third quarter 2020



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.